



Media Advisory

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Wood River Levee Agreement Signing June 30 Provides Go Ahead for Planning, Construction

Melvin Price Locks and Dam -- An agreement to begin work on repairing the Wood River Levee System will be signed in a ceremony at the Melvin Price Locks and Dam near Alton, Monday, June 30 at 3 p.m.

The signing of a Project Partnership Agreement will establish a formal partnership between the Wood River Drainage and Levee District and the Federal government (Department of Army) to share responsibilities and construct the repairs needed to restore the levee to its authorized level of protection.

This is an important step toward improving the overall protection afforded by the system in the Metro East region. Repairs to the Wood River Levee and all the levees in the Metro East area are the focus of a cooperative effort involving the levee districts; Federal, Illinois and local governments; businesses and communities.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be represented by the Honorable John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works and Col. Lewis F. Setliff III, Commander of the St. Louis District. Mr. Leroy Emerick, President of the Board of Commissioners of the Wood River Drainage and Levee District and Mr. Alan Dunstan, Madison County Board Chairman will represent the local citizens.

The agreement will signal the start of planning and construction to improve protection to people who live and work behind the levee as well as for the infrastructure that everyone in the region depends upon.

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- Who:** Representatives of the Federal government, the Wood River Drainage and Levee District and local governments.
- What:** Formal signing of an agreement to rebuild the Wood River Levee protection to authorized levels of protection.
- When:** At 3 p.m., Monday, June 30, 2008
- Where:** At the Melvin Price Locks and Dam near Alton, IL. The adjacent National Great Rives Museum will be an alternative weather location.
Hwy 143, 2 miles south of the Clark Bridge